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From the Lady's Book.

THE BROKEN PROMISE.

"Good even, fair Edith; -just glance from the page which for these ten minutes has absorbed all your faculties, and give a word of welcome to your friend, was the gay salutation of Marina Sandford as she ntered the parlor of her cousin, Edith Morton, whom she found sitting in an arm-chair, one hand supportentrance of Marina and her prolonged gaze of ten minutes were unbeeded.

"Your pardon, dear Marina; your visits are ever welcome. This enteresting tale must be my excuse rejection. for not seeing you. It has, indeed, been a skillful magnetizer, and I a willing subject. Have you read village, again met with his old companions, and soon spirit had departed. He left his business, his friend

"No: I do not read love stories. I really thought you had too much sense to throw away your time on such stuff-not only your time, but for the while yourself, I think for your own benefit you might as benefitted others."

"Very good, Miss Marina. What a fine lecturer you would make, What a beautiful expression of scorn beamed from your eye and curled your lip as you exclaimed 'I never read love stories!" To be serious, how long since you have been so wise?

"Why, since I have arrived at years of discretion, and have learned that love and constancy are idle dreams of youth."

"So you are sure that 'constancy lives in realms above,' and love is but an idle flower, that blooms and dies the self-same hour?"

"Yes. So far as my own experience and observa tion show, affection such as your favorite tales portray exists not, save in the imagination. Therefore I think we should not peruse such writings as picture-things that are never realized."

"There we agree. It would be worse than folly to spend our precious hours in reading the description of characters, of events that are not and may never be. Here we differ. You say the stories of the heart which I occasionally read have no counterpart in real life;-to this conclusion you have arrived by your own observation and experience. Then I nust think you have never loved, and that your ab

ervations have been incorrect-at least partial." "True, I have never been in love according to your story-telling acceptation of the word, but it would seem you have, or, albeit I am somewhat older, you have looked on things with different eyes from mine Pray, do you know of all our acquaintance a single. case of matrimony all for love, or, what would be Heaven's will be done. But one request-remember stranger still, one of single-blessedness for the sake 'tis your dying mother asks it; and would you see write after my arrival in this country; if the California. Eve-

"Yes, my memory is full of such, and had you lifted the veil that shrouds the thoughts of even some of your friends from the prying world, you would have said with Willis-

Oh, if there is one law above the rest

Written in wisdom-If there is anything that keeps the mind

Open to angels' visits, and repels

The ministry of ills, 'tis human love Our good and noble Uncle Geoffrey-did it ever oc cur to you why he was an old bachelor?

"Uncle Geoffrey? You surely do not mean to say that he has been a votary of celibacy all for love?"

"Most sure I do, my incredulous coz. You will yet learn by your own experience, or put me down died. for a false prophetess, that true affection is not romance, but reality."

"May your prophecy prove true if you can prove to me, by any of your tales of observation, that the love of your story-tellers finds an abode on this carth his generous heart could devise. By degrees she load up the mountains. The descent on this side is October. The rain began Christmas day, and there among the bipeds called men and women. But first, Uncle Geoffrey's history-that could not have been hint did he recur to that last request of her dying very rough and hilly. But there is a proposition a-days, and then we have pleasant weather. In a week one of your observations, for, from his age, it must have happened prior to your birth."

"I did not witness it, but my knowledge of the circumstances is the result of my observations. I had long noticed the readiness with which Uncle G. Who but Geoffrey Morton stood pady now to comreads the tales you stigmatize as stuff; that he is as eeply absorbed as I was when you found me. After e perusal of some, he would throw his head back in his great chair, while an expression of sad abstractedness would pass over his countenance, as if he was when their engagement was announced. None or grocery store on the road, (Fort Hall) I would ad-Looking back to other times; a heavy sigh would escape him, which would rouse him from his reverie he then would arise and go forth, whistling or humming some lively air, to his business. These little things attracted my curiosity. On one of my visits to Aunt Maria, I, much to her surprise, inquired if Uncle G. had not in his youth been the hero of some little romance. She then gave me the history I'll now relate, if you are not tired by this long preface.

"Pray, proceed; I am all patience and attention." "That large, old fashioned brick house opposite Aunt M.'s, was formerly the residence of Dr. Denton. his wife, a son and daughter. Susan Denton was the companion and schoolmate of Aunt Maria.-While at school a youthful attachment sprang up between Susan and David Haughton, a bright, hand- not be there, and by exciting her pity for his misforsome lad from a neighboring town. He was a wild reckless fellow, ever ready for sport, and where danger might be found, the first to meet it was David II. Ever ready was he to rescue the girls and save the weak and the fearful from the reproofs of the to forget her promise to her dying mother. Having but poor timber for farming and building purposes. improve the lands until there is some security for the teacher. Susan was amiable and intelligent, vet. timid beyond her mates, so more often called for the youth's protection. She was generally loved, yet her heart & hand. Having obtained his first wish twas some of the older ones might be occasionally heard easy to persuade her that her mother's last request to say, 'What a pity Susan Denton hasn't a little was unjust, that a promise make under such circum-valley, are wholly unsusceptible of cultivation, from of the first plantation I saw in the valley, and have more firmness and decision of character; and many stances could not be binding; also, that his character the fact that they are not only poor and burren, but traveled only in that valley; and the ranches are gena fear was expressed (it might afterwards seem pro- had so changed, that were her parents now alive their the dry weather in Sammer would not permit a crop erally from ten to hity miles report. I have, there-

san and David II. He went to his home, and rumor reported him a son dissipation.

finer looking man than Geoffrey Morton? He was ishment even in this life! much loved by her parents-much they wished to

They had not dared to ask the approval of Dr. Den- another shrine! ton. Could they expect he would cheerfully bestow his daughter on a gambler, however much her way- cousin-have you now any faith in human love?" ward heart might feel?

"Months passed, Mrs. Denton fell sick-ah, very sick. She was ardently loved by her husband and be a bachelor. But all are not like him." children. Day by day and night after night found hour of departure arrived. Then it would seem the ton. Another time I may relate some of my own spirit and strength of health came upon her as she observations." moned her family and friends to receive her last tionate words she bestowed on all, nor the courage ously, and see if she can make some discoveries." that sustained her as she bade adieu to all her early riends, her husband and her children. Her voice altered not till she turned to address the weeping Susan, who knelt beside her bed. She placed her wan and withered hand upon the head of that loved one, and all a mother's heart gushed forth-Heaven bless thee, beloved one. I have felt no pang like this, My husband I leave with the full assurance of that he will act well his part in life and be ready for to Geoffrey Morton: he would cherish you and lead emigrate thither .- Tribune. you aright. Now I tremble for my child. Yet you will be his."

"She raised her dying head from off the pillow and hand; yet you could see by their convulsive grasp how great was the struggle within. She raised her Lick road,) and might, with a little work, be made a head; her cheek was deadly pale; her lip quivered good deal better. There is plenty of water and timber mechanics \$2 to \$3; mill-wrights \$4 per day. So as she, in low but distant voice, uttered, 'My mother for cooking; there is no place where water may not that although we pay high for clothing and all we be happy-I promise; I will obey your last request. be had, at farthest every 25 miles. From the sink want for use, yet we get high prices for labor and for cross that dying Mother's brow, you would have said several hot springs and salt springs. From where el, usually \$1 50; beans \$1 50; peas \$1 50; potatoes that bliss was cheaply purchased. That hour she we strike Trucky's river to its head (Trucky's lake,) 50 cents per robe (25 lbs.)

for her grief; he strove to allay it by every means mother. Though now he felt that he loved most and hope for its return. He was accepted! Blithe and happy were the hearts of their young friends for shooting the cattle. As there is but one tavern may be truly said that there are but two modes of buried in her mother's grave.

"Preparations were making throughout the village for the bridal festivities. As Susan Denton, the great valley of the Sacramento, from personal obser- is it true that "you can gather a feather bed in a day was to unite her fate with one of their most wealthy from information. The valley is about 300 miles Musketoes, flies and insects of every description noble and handsome youths, each one determined to long, from 1 to 200 miles wide, crossed by several are here in innumerable myriads-fleas and mice, but Uncle Geoffrey received a note stating that his in- ter tumbles from rock to rock, affording neither nav- resided here some years and become citizens, in grants; tended bride had that morn been maaried to another, igation nor valleys for cultivation. On all the riv- some three, four, and sometimes thirty to fifty leagues and that other David Haughton!

an hour each day till she should be forever another's cealing his visits from him to whom she had promised

CHAS. WOODRUFF, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. | phetic) that her want of fixedness of purpose would consent would readily be given to her union with her | to be raised. They are covered now with small flow-| fore, seen but about one hundred men since my arr be her ruin. At the age of fifteen she and Aunt Ma- first love. He also had the hardihood to affirm that ers and some bunch grass, which makes good pasture val, and those entirely foreighners, most of them perria, with a few other young ladies, left the academy the love of the noble, generous Geoffrey Morton was until the rainy season sets in, though it is entirely and attended a select school, where they learned mu- weak in comparison with his; that he had meanly dry by the 1st of July. The population will forever sic drawing, and some other etceteras of polite lear- won her consent by her remembrance of her dying be confined to the banks of the rivers. A gentleman ning. There ceased all communication between Su- mother's last request. His specious words too well present says, that the plains between here and the succeeded. She married him, and they removed to St. Wankine, are much more fertile, and that much the far west, where they now live in misery and woe, of them may be watered and profitably cultivated .-"At cighteen Susan was a charming girl, and at- he a miserable drunkard and gambler, she deprived He thinks the lower part of Upper California much tracted many suitors, among them our own Uncle of the comforts, at times of the necessaries of life for superior to the valley, but the difficulty of securing Geoffrey, then just returned home after six years ab- herself and little ones-he, the heartless man, even sence. He we may well suppose was handsome be- reproaching her for breaking her last promise to her ced many of us to stop here. The country, taken youd his companions-for tehere now do we see a dying mother. Sure some crimes receive their pun-

ng her head, the other grasping the Lady's Book, in see him the husband of their beloved daughter. Their at the unlooked for termination of the day which better than in Missouri. Irrigated lands here will which she was so engaged that the somewhat noisy wishes were vain: for once was she decided in her promised so much happiness. He had given all his produce from 40 to 60 bushels of Wheat to the acre opinion, and she rejected him. It would seem his heart to one unworthy of it, who had thrown it back every year. There is no fly, nor rust, nor rot; and whole heart had not bowed to the shrine of love, for, wounded and almost broken. His friends with their the only trouble is to have moisture enough to make engaged in business, he appeared little to mind the kind sympathy crowded around him. Their sympa- it head well. Tobacco, Cotton, Flax, Potatoes, Beans, thy be could not brook; be hastened from them and Peas, &c. grow finely, but not without watering .-"About the time David Haughton returned to the wandered away alone. His former gay and happy While on this subject, I will speak of the labor to be selected his former favorite, Susan Denton, from and home, and journeyed hither and thither, examinnong the youthful maides, as the supreme object of ing the beautiful works of nature and art. Years his attentions. His early promise of beauty was well passed. He returned a sadder yet a happier man .fulfilled, and there was something peculiarly fascina- As we see him now, attentive to his business, devoting in his manners that was well calculated to please ted to his aged mother, kind and affectionate to his well have been in a magnetic sleep. It there be any the heart of one already prejudiced in his favor by friends, ever ready to alleviate the wants of those truth in that would-be science, you then might have the remembrance of youthful kindness. They sepa- around him, yet the remembrance of his heart's trial the remainder of the year. They are about half as rated acknowledged lovers, though not affianced .- is ever with him-has ever prevented his bowing at good as the negroes in Missouri, with good looking

> "That is the tale she told me. What says my "There truly seemed more reality than romance in

Uncle Geoffrey's attachment, or he would not now "True; yet these are hearts as constant to their them anxious watchers by the couch of the sufferer, first love. Enough for the present; it always pains In vain were all their efforts for her recovery; her me to think there could be a woman like Susan Den-

"You will find your cousin a ready listener, and farewell. None present will ever forget the affec- she in the meanwhile will use her optics more cauti-

E. S. D.

LATE FROM CALIFORNIA.

The St. Louis Missouri Reporter of the first inst

has the following late and interesting letter from California, written, if we mistake not, by a brother of Hon. James Semple, U. S. Senator from Illinois and prospective Governor of Oregon. It gives the clearour soon being reunited, where the weary are at rest? est and fairest account of the positional advantages and disadvantages on camorana as a country to settle and live in that we have met with. We have drawn a heavenly inheritance. But you, my daughter, how attention to some of its statements by putting them can I leave you to the guidance of your own way- in Italies. He gives a plain and distinct account of enough to ride. The old settlers in this country. ward spirit? Would that you had given your heart that country, which will benefit those intending to some of them, have several thousand head of cattle

BEAR RIVER, CALIFORNIA, April 10, 1846. a road as that from St. Charles to Columbia, (Boon's "Had you but seen the flush of joy that spread a- of Mary's river about 30 miles to fresh water, are what we raise. Wheat is worth now \$2.50 per bushat the foot of the California mountain, the road is seemed happier than the fair girl berself, for all re- vise persons coming to this country to provide them-

butter, lard and bacon. laughter of their most loved and lamented physician, vation, and whatever I may say of the remainder is on Feather River." outvie the other in their contributions to the general pretty large rivers, many of them navigable to no chinches. well, as there is no rain from April to December to my time and your patience admonishes me to stop. wash them

land and the bad character of the Indians, have indutogether, is greatly inferior to the Western States, but those who get situations on the rivers, where "Wonder not if the head of Uncle Geoffrey reeled they can easily irrigate the soil, can do 200 per cent. performed. A farmer who is fitted with sufficient teams and farming utencils, may, employ as many Indians as he pleases, for nothing but their victuals, and that very cheap, and about two shirts and a pair of pantaloons of the coarsest kind. He may keep them while he wants them, which is only at seedtime and harvest, and then send them to their villages again for after. So that a farmer, with a capital of 400 or 500 dollars, can raise and gather about as much grain as the Missourian with 40 negroes. The Indians know nothing of the use of the ax, but they are good ditchers, and ditches are the only fence we have.

The timber is altogether in the mountains, which are covered with the most beautiful pine, fir and cedar, very tall and straight, but in the most places very difficult to get into the valley for use, from the fact that there is generally 15 or 20 miles of hills between the mountain and the valley, which make bad roads. Most of the houses here are built of adobes, or sticks set up endwise and daubed with mud, sometimes covered with boards, and at others with tooly, (bullrush). So far we have not had much use for timber. The country below is supplied with timber from the red woods near the sea-coast, which is very good and beautiful timber, much like the red cedar .-I'he trees grow very large and straight, and split like

Stock .- Horses and cattle are raised here without any feeding; even when we ride a horse, at any seaand brand them, and to break the colts when large and horses. The prices of horses are from \$20 to \$50, mares from \$7 to \$25, cattle \$3 50 to \$15;-Dear Sir: I sit down to redeem my promise to American cattle and horses generally are about 25 er more will see David Haughton; that if again the formation from here will be gladly received. I shall in St. Louis at \$7, are worth \$35, and even \$50, and noble Geoffrey Morton should woo you for his wife, try to give an impartial account of the country, and very hard to get at those prices; axes \$5; spades \$5 its political situation, and embody as much informato \$6, scarce; cooking vessels about 30 cents per lb.; tion as I can. First, then, the road from Independ- all sorts of Iron tools or vessels very high; clothing bent her piercing gaze upon that fair girl who knelt ence to the foot of the California mountains, across of every description about five to six times what they beside her, whose pale face was hid beneath her the Rocky and Calumet mountains, is about as good cost in St. Louis; common yarn socks 2 dollars a

Labor is also high: common hands \$1 50 per day;

The climate is pleasant, seldom any ice-occasion rough and rocky, but perfectly safe. From the lake al frost from December to April. Up to the 25th of nuest and Susan's promise, soon reached the ear of to the top of the mountain, about 5 miles, the ascent December, the time of our arrival, there had been no Uncle Geoffrey. His heart was touched with pity is very steep and rocky, but the last emigrants got rain, and but little frost, and the weather was about their wagons over without breaking, by packing the as pleasant as usual in the States in September and learned to look to him as to a friend, for never by a about 100 miles to the plain, 80 of that distance being was some ice. The rain usually falls for two or three mong the foreigners who expect their friends from or two after the rain set in, the plains or high lands deeply, that in soothing her afflictions he had made the States, to go and work on the road; if so, we become what we call tasky; that is, a horse will sink it become his happiness to minister to hers. At shall make quite a passable road at all events. Out in to his knees, and sometimes deeper, so that it is length her father died. Her brother was away. of the 2250 miles from Independence, there is but anot practicable to travel on horseback, except in the bout 100 of bad road. Our party had no trouble from bottoms which remain firm all winter. But they are fort the desolate orphan? Very grateful, too, was the Indians, and the emigration had none, except the she for his kind sympathy. He dared to whisper love occasional loss of some of their stock and one man is, therefore, confined to the bottoms; the high hills killed, and that by rushing on the Indians in a fight, are impassable during the rain, except on foot It travel here during the winter, that is, either fly or steim. The game is becoming scarce, but during the nembrance of her former love seemed to have been selves with plenty of provisions, flour, rice, cheese, winter there are a great many water-fowls. They leave in the spring for a more northern latitude, and The face of the country. - I can only describe the do not stop to breed here, as has been reported; nor

hilarity. The morning of the wedding-day arrived, the foot of the mountain; and from that up, the wa- Lands have been obtained by persons who have ers from the mountain to the mouth, there are large But the Government has become alarmed and changed "It seemed that for some days past he had been bottoms from one-half to six miles wide, mostly allu- its policy. There are but few who can now obtain secreted in the village, and had frequently visited vium, and of the most fertile character, covered with grants of any size; and those who have lands are not Susan D. at the hours he knew that Uncle G. would grass and the richest vegetation, with a skirt of trees authorized by their titles, to sell; there being no such near the stream, mostly oak, some buck-eye, box, ei- thing as fee simple titles, except in a few special intune in being forever deprived of his first and only der and willow. The oaks grow very large, 4 to 7 stances. The grants are only loans from the Govlove, beseeching for the little pleasure of seeing her feet in diameter, but the trunks are very short, sel- ernment, which is the main reason why the people dom more than 8 or 10 feet, and then it branches in- live in tents or little shanties, and at the same time when he could no more see her, that she was induced to large limbs, good for fire-wood, when seasoned, own several thousand head of stock. They will not committed one error, she proceeded to another, con- We make no fences, but use the ditch, which stands title. I would like to write you more at length, but

> The people I am but ill qualified to give you a des-The plains, which form about three-fourths of the cription of, from personal intercourse, for I took charge

sons who have either retired from the sea, or run away from the shipping. Some of them are clever men and other scamps. Most of them give each other ba characters; many not only confess that they steal horses and cattle, but beast of it. I bought a horse this morning that the man is to steal for m in a day or two. You will think this strange con duct, but this same man was not only robbed, but beaten by the other; and there is no law to him, so that he has to make himself whole i oin of his opponent. The Spanish portion of the population are represented as a thicking, cowar dancing, lewd people, and generally indolent and faithless. The history given of them by Capta Hastings, in his 'Emigrant's Guide,' is eo by general report here. It may be truly said have priests, a governor, and alcades, but we neither lase nor gospel.

The Indians of the valley are numerous and liv n small villages. They have a chief and an alcade who are in the habit of selling them to the white for mere trifles-a few beads or a handkerchief .-The men are entirely naked, and the women have a bunch of weeds or grass tied around their wants Those who are employed by the whites, generally get shirts and pants for their work. They are entirely inoffensive, but very wild. Those who are bought by the whites when young, learn to do very well, but the wild ones live on acorns and roots .-They catch fish at some seasons, but many of then live on clover, like sheep,

THE PLAINEST KIND OF TALK.

The Ohio Statesman, the Loco Foco state pape at Columbus, handles Polk's Veto on the River and Harbor bill after a fashion of which the following extracts will give some faint ideas:

"The Message in which the President support

his views, is a shallow performance, vulgar in the language, ridiculous in its false logic, and paltry as the treatment of a thesis by some hair-splitting and wire drawing schoolman of the middle ages, who thought nimself a great man, because, like all small character he had mistaken cunning for wisdom. It is, however, quite worthy the man whose imbecility has been so unhappily displayed in his action on the Oregon question-first uttering boasts of the loudest kine and then sneaking off to cover when the enemy's bay was faintly heard in the distance. There is a re markable similarity in the President's conduct on these two subjects. As he monthed and small the Oregon, like unto one of Nat. Lee's Bedlamite heroes for we can only call it mouthing and raving, when the bathos of the treaty is known to us, however much it pleased us at the time of its utterance, because we believed it to be the warm language of earnestness and sincerity-so has he now vetoed a bill substantially recommended by himself, through the report of the Secretary of War, a high officer of his for him, that the Secretary though reporting through the President, really reports to Congress. Granted -but this does not in the slightest degree alter the case. It has always been considered-at least it was in those days when it was thought that some degree of profound statesmanship was necessary in governing a great nation-that a Cabinet should support one uniform policy, as speaking the sentiments of the party whose principles it was appointed to aid in carrying out. Who ever heard of a high Cabinet officer recommending to Congress, through the President, a course of action directly contrary to that of the President himself, and actually accompanied with the proper estimates as to the cost of carrying it out-who ever heard of any thing of the kind, we ask, before these days of deception and palpable fraud? What President with a decent portion of self respect, ever practised such small intrigue? It is new in the history of our country, and no doubt found its origin and motive in the desire to deceive some members of Congress into the support of measures which the Executive feared might not otherwise prove successfull. As the great words about Oregon were followed by the smallest possible actions, and were intended only to gull honest men, so was the course of the President on the subject of improving harbors and rivers favorable only with the design of gaining votes for the new Tariff Bill, the Administration not having faith enough to believe that one righteous measure could stand, without practicing a little deception on another. We most earnestly hope that the day is not coming when every true Democrat will have having aided in elevatingto power, men who mistake treachery for good conduct, and paltry shifts for great statesmanship. THE UNWILLING BRIDEGROOM .- A young man had

engaged himself to a playmate in early youth, but as his mind developed, he perceived that he was mismated, and wished to be released from his engagement. The young lady would not consent, and insisted upon being married. The young man appeared to yield, but when asked, as usual, "Will you take this woman to be your wife?" he answered "No." At this unexpected answer the marriage party broke up in confusion. The relatives of the rejected bride resented the insult offered to their family, and threatened prosecution. At last the young lady proposed that they should go again to church, and that the bridegroom should make the usual answer, promising that when it came to her turn she would say no, that the refusal might appear to come from her. The bridegroom cons but to his great surprise, the bride answered "yes; the marriage ceremony was concluded in form, and he found himself, against his will a married man.

When articles rise, the consumer is the first that uffers, and when they fall, he is the last that gains. There is a paradox in pride-it makes some men ridiculous, but prevents others from becoming so.